35¢

The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

NOVEMBER 17, 1977, ISSUE No. 44

Poppin… in Wester…

Fish… SAN…

Sur… PO… FRO…

***'77 in Review:* Banner Year?**

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CHUM LINES

READER ON COMPETITION

After reading "From the Editor's Head" in the October 20th issue concerning competition, I felt it was time I wrote you about a major offshore tournament which has left me with mixed emotions about competition.

The Bay Shore Mako Shark Tournament is perhaps one of the best-known and prestigious of all the saltwater tournaments on the East Coast. I have participated in the contest, along with other members of my fishing club (The Atlantic Anglers) for the last couple of years. I have enjoyed very much the excitement that is generated, not only by the contest itself, but by the preparation for it. Each man on the team has a certain responsibility and it is very gratifying to see it all come together on the two days of the tournament. The tournament also gives anglers a chance to meet members of other clubs who share this common interest.

As good as all these reasons to have a tournament may sound, they are cancelled out when you see the final result. After the sharks were brought in and weighed, they were thrown into a garbage truck! This scene was so shocking to me that I still get upset whenever I think of it. In fact, I could not fish the second day of the tournament because of it.

I'm not looking to condemn the committee who set up the tournament, nor anyone else, but I'm just wondering if there could be a better way to conclude this contest. I know that the fish caught in the Babylon Tuna Contest are sold to the public, and the proceeds go to charity.

I'm writing to you in hopes that you can make some sort of recommendation to the committee, or if there is an error in my way of thinking—you may correct me—so that I can once again fish this tournament without this tremendous feeling of guilt that I have. **Victor Consiglio.**

We offered an alternative more than a year ago in an editorial. Why not measure fish and release. Estimates would have to do, but it works for other clubs. If we don't trust each other, maybe we shouldn't compete or call each other friends. **Dr. W. A. Muller.**

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON SEA WORMS

Can you please recommend a publication, or tell me where I can write, for information relative to the life habits of the red, blood worm used for fishing and found in Maine.

Many thanks for your help. **Stanley R. Reckler**

"Biology of the Invertebrates," by Hickman. Publisher: Mosby. **Dr. W. A. Muller.**

THE PERSONAL TOUCH

I would like to thank you and The Fisherman staff for your concern over my late arrival each week of your magazine. It was surprising for me to open your letter informing me that you have taken such interest in an individual case such as mine. I would also like to let you know, that although I have only had a subscription with The Fisherman for a year, that I am so impressed with your magazine, and the desire you have to please your subscribers that I am sure I will subscribe to your magazine for many more years. **Glenn Hertzler.**

You are welcome, and thank you for the kind words. **Dr. W. A. Muller.**

READER'S STAMP OF APPROVAL

I just wanted to say that I am not an important person, but a proud subscriber of the LIF and might add what a great and wonderful magazine this is. I am not sure how many people would write something like this but I thought I'd like to give credit where credit is due. What a fine staff you must have to put a publication like this together. I hope you're as proud of this magazine as I am proud to receive it. Keep it up! **Peter F. Amari**

You're wrong, Peter. You are a very important person. As a matter of fact, you and the rest of our readers are the most important people that we know. Thanks for the kind words. We digest both the good and the bad and hope that it helps us to turn out a better product. **Dr. W.A. Muller**

FRED J. FLOUNDER A HIT

Just want to tell you that Fish Talk article on flounder in this week's issue was tops in my book.

I've been toying with that approach for a long time—but now I'm glad I didn't follow through. I could never have treated the subject matter, nor written it, as well as you.

Good job! **Matt Ahern.**

Thanks, Matt. Although the brain chugs along at a modest level of activity most of the time, once in awhile we get a brainstorm. The idea comes from a similar treatment of the "guppy" that appeared in THE AQUARIST about thirty years ago. **Dr. W.A.Muller.**

ERRORS IN NAVIGATION & SEAMANSHIP—ISSUE 41

First of all, deviation is **caused** by magnetic material near the compass.

When talking about current, and current problems, the proper terms are **SET** and **DRIFT**, with set expressed in degrees from 000° through 360° in the direction of flow! and drift is the speed of current expressed in knots.

In the problem mentioned, the course to the closest degree is 101° and the speed of the boat over the bottom is 12.5 knots and not 14.5. If you want to be a real stickler, the correct answer is 101° 22'4 for course and 12.4848653 knots.

One degree of Latitude equals 60 minutes, with each minute equal to 1 nautical mile 6076 feet or 1853 meters.

The accompanying sketch will show

The Long Island FISHERMAN

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VOL. 12, No. 44 NOVEMBER 17, 1977

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PLUG THEORY

About the Cover—

This angler was very happy with the fight this big whiting put up on light tackle. See the article *Whiting—Favorite Frost Fish,* on page 14 of this issue.

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The LONG ISLAND FISHERMAN is published weekly, except for two weeks in December, by the L.I.F. Publishing Corporation, L.I.F. Building, Bridge St., P.O. Box 1994, Sag Harbor, New York 11963. Telephone (516) 725-4200. Second Class Postage is paid at Sag Harbor, N.Y. $.35 cents per copy, back issues $.50 per copy. *Subscriptions:* 1 Year, 50 Issues – $9.00; 2 Years, 100 Issues – $17.00; 3 Years, 150 Issues – $25.00. Photographs and written contributions are welcomed. Unsolicited contributions must be accompanied by a written request and a self addressed stamped envelope. All consideration will be given these requests, however no responsibility on our part is assumed. Notice of change of address must include both the old and the new addresses. Please allow two weeks for the address change to be made.

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★ EDITORIAL ★

They scare me!

On Sunday, October 9, 1977, a group of hardy naturalists braved the heavy rains and winds to hold a wildlife walk in Central Park. I could be very corny and say—and there sure is a lot of wildlife in Central Park—but I won't.

Anyway, the walk was in support of two ideas. One, to draw public attention to the plight of wildlife in America and second, to oppose National Hunting and Fishing Day. I turned to a friend and said: "Those people scare me, they really do!"

But why? Do I disagree with supporting wildlife? Of course not! But I do worry about people who want to prevent other people from fishing and hunting. For some reason, non-hunters and non-fishermen believe that sportsmen are crazy nuts who run around with 45 caliber pistols strapped to their sides and a mounted marlin in their pockets! The concept of a sportman as a crazed weirdo is a popular one. The fact is that most people who enjoy hunting enjoy being in the out-of-doors, watching wildlife, breathing fresh clean air, and getting some exercise as much as they enjoy shooting at animals. Most of the hunters that I know are not depressed because they haven't shot a deer in a half-dozen years.

I don't hunt myself. I don't like it. But I wouldn't condemn anyone who does like it. The killing bothers me, I admit, but it's purely a personal thing since I don't shy off killing a fish now and again. I'm sure there are hunters who dislike slimy fish, too. Intellectually, however, I know that hunting does not damage natural populations of, let's say, deer because deer are managed by State Conservation Departments for the express purpose of hunting. Now, that may sound very cruel except that without the hunting effort the diagnosis is still death. In fact, more deer will probably die if hunters were not allowed to harvest. There is precedent for this opinion. Several years ago, well-intentioned people in New Jersey succeeded in preventing the annual fall harvest of deer in a certain part of the State. In the spring, when the snow melted and the frost left the earth, Conservation Department officials counted a staggering number of dead deer. Cause of death: starvation. There were too many deer for the available food supply. Since all the deer competed for the food and since starvation is a protracted process, more deer died of starvation compared to a situation in which the deer herds were thinned by hunters.

I must be candid and say that I have often thought about how the fish that I catch must feel when I hook them. I'm sure that it's painful, and I feel bad about that. But I remove the hooks carefully and gently release most of the fish that I catch. I keep what I can eat. Now, when one dismisses the emotional side of the discussion and concentrates on fact, there is very little if anything to feel bad about. We all have to eat. St. Peter was a fisherman and Christ didn't condemn St. Peter for that. The nature of trophic dynamics dictates that organisms higher in the food chain eat creatures that are lower on the food chain. To deny this relationship leaves a person with only one alternative—**STARVATION!!**

Where does hunting and fishing become abhorrent? That's easy! The hunters who in years past set up buffalo stands; the hunter who kills for the pleasure of killing and then leaves the carcass to rot in the woods, and the fisherman that fills garbage pail after pail with fish that he knows he doesn't need.

Hunting and fishing and the people who participate in these sports are responsible for more conservation efforts and more wildlife preservation than most people realize. The recently formed New York Marine Sportfishing Council, for example, is made up of fishermen whose goals are the protection and preservation of marine fish and their habitats.

So I hold to my original gut feeling: "Those people scare me!" They want to change us; they want us to stop doing something which is not wrong and which puts food on the table, and provides a great deal of pleasure. They want to deny the positive conservation efforts of millions of sportsmen and they want to impose their beliefs on us. We must be on guard to prevent this and we must continue to show the non-fishing public that we care about the fish and their habitats.

Lillian R. Eyeller

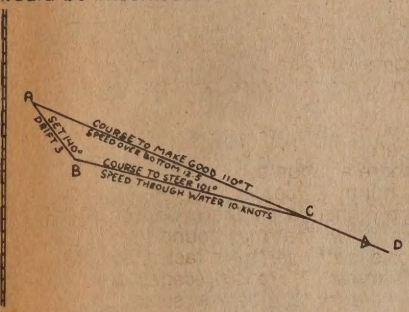
how to allow for set and drift.

To lay out a current vector, proceed as follows:

1. Lay out course from point of departure A to destination point D. 110°.
2. From point A draw a line in the direction of current flow 140° for a distance of 3 miles (Drift, or speed of current).
3. From point B step of 10 miles (Speed of boat through the water) intersecting the original course line at 10 miles, and draw that line, which will be the course to steer in order to stay on the desired track from A to D.

The distance from A to C represents the speed of the boat over the bottom—12.5 knots.

If the distance from A to D is 19.8 miles, the time required to make D would be 1h35m09SEC.



This diagram is in the proper proportions with 1 mile = 1 centimeter. **Nautical Service, Northport, NY.**

Pass It On...

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS LOCATION OF ELECTRIC GENERATION FACILITIES

The Senate Standing Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Public Utilities, Assembly Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions, Senate Committee on Conservation and Recreation and the Assembly Committee on Environmental Conservation will hold a series of three joint Public Hearings on the subject of revision of Article VIII of the Public Service Law (Siting of Major Steam Electric Generating Facilities).

Article VIII, which will expire on January 1, 1979, was enacted to provide a forum for the expeditious resolution of all matters concerning the location of electric generating facilities. The purposes of the hearings will be to examine the objectives, strengths, and limitations of the existing law and regulations, and to consider any proposals for the amendment, repeal or re-enactment of such law.

Individuals or organizations wishing to make a presentation at the hearings should contact the clerk of the Senate Standing Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Public Utilities, Mrs. Barbara Vahue, at Room 903, Legislative Office Building, Albany, New York, 12247 or by phone at (518) 472-6081. Written statements should be submitted to Senator James T. McFarland's Albany office in quantities of at least twenty copies at least five days in advance of any hearing.

Oral testimony should be limited to ten minutes duration.

A hearing is scheduled in New York on Wednesday, November 30, 1977, 10:30 a.m. at 270 Broadway, 25th Floor Hearing Room.

ATLANTIC BLUEFIN TUNA SPORTFISHING SURVEY

Letter to Sportfishermen

Many thanks to all of you, including the marina operators, bait and tackle shop dealers, sports writers, and tournament coordinators who cooperated with our port samplers and other field personnel, and helped to make this year's bluefin tuna sport fishing survey a sucess. Your efforts enabled us to achieve our goal: to obtain the best estimate of the total number of bluefin tuna caught by sport fishermen in the primary areas covered by the survey—namely Virginia, New Jersey and New York, and additional data of catches from North Carolina, Maryland, Delaware, Rhode Island and southern Massachusetts. Your willingness to provide us with biological samples will permit advances in our studies of the age structure and life histories of the bluefin tuna populations in local waters. Again our sincere thanks.

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Sinker Bouncing

with Matt Ahern

WHITING FISHING

Being from the old school, I can remember when whiting were rarely the desired target of fishermen. By that I mean whiting were considered by most fishermen of the day to be nothing more than "fill-in" fish when the more desired species such as cod went on a hunger strike. They figured, I guess, that catching whiting was better than catching nothing.

Few party boat skippers sailed for whiting as a main diet, and those fishermen who found pleasure in it were often treated with derision by their fellow anglers. In fact, most whiting-fishing skippers of that time had daily problems securing enough passengers to make a decent living. Every fisherman wanted cod or blackfish, but none, it seemed, were much interested in whiting.

There were good reasons for this attitude, of course. All our bottom feeding fish were extremely plentiful and anglers of the day were practically guaranteed action when they stepped aboard their favorite party boat. (But make no mistake, we had our poor days, too.) But there were anglers who did enjoy whiting fishing and they took advantage of it whenever possible. I know—I was one. But by and large, the elite of the bottom fishing clan considered whiting, along with ling, as being the bottom rung on the piscatorial ladder.

But how that attitude has changed!

Today's bottom fisherman knows whiting fishing is great sport—and like the old-timer, he, too, is practically guaranteed action. I can't remember ever going whiting fishing and not succeeding in catching all I wanted. In fact, on most days the problem seems to be in knowing when to stop. Even with the serious inroads made by the foreign fishing fleets, there seems to be no serious depletion for the sport fisherman. For the American commercial fisherman, that's another story.

November and December are great whiting fishing months, and if you want to stock that freezer for the coming winter, now's the time to do it. If the New York Bight is available to you, you've got it made, for nowhere outside this vast fishing area will the Long Island and New Jersey angler find better whiting fishing.

The nice thing about whiting fishing is its simplicity. No elaborate tackle is required. A medium-weight boat rod with matching reel, a sinker heavy enough to hold bottom, and two hooks, will bring you all the action you could hope for.

You'll find most experienced whiting fishermen fill their reel with at least 100 yards of twenty or thirty pound test monofilament. My choice has always leaned to the thirty pound stuff. Not because you're going to catch any monster whiting—nail a three-pounder and you can brag a little—but cod do frequent the known whiting grounds and you should have something substantial going for you just in case.

I sometimes think there are more cod available on these grounds than is commonly supposed, but there are so many whiting around, cod don't get much chance at the hook; but occasionally one is caught and needless to say, this is the pool fish.

Whiting are greedy feeders and this makes them far from line shy; therefore you have much leeway in hook selection. I use a 3/0 or 4/0 Sproat, but because whiting have sharp teeth, some fishermen prefer to use a long shanked hook such as the Carlisle in the above sizes. The choice is yours, but either will produce fish without difficulty.

A bank sinker is preferred. Your bait must be on bottom, but if it moves along slightly, don't fret—when anchored, whiting are attracted to a moving bait. Just make sure it is heavy enough to feel bottom when you raise and lower your rod. Most times you will find an eight ounce sinker will do the job perfectly.

Swivels aren't necessary. Just make a one inch double-overhand loop on the main line about two feet above the sinker and place your top hook there. The lower one is tied in a snell's length above the sinker. If you want a ling or two, lower it two inches above the sinker so that the bait lies on bottom. Ling will grab a bait dangling off bottom, too, but not so readily as whiting. But if they're so anxious, you might as well make it easy for them.

Some fishermen use more than two hooks, each staggered far enough apart to avoid tangling. When this rig is used, it isn't unusual to see three or four whiting on one line. I never bother doing this, though. I find it often causes tangles and at the end of the day, I'm not too far away from the multi-hook fishermen. And if the day is nippy, I'm well ahead.

Many fishermen use nothing but a four to six ounce diamond jig and they have no problem landing all the fish they could possibly want. If this appeals to you, just let the jig reach bottom, reel in a couple of feet and begin jigging. Aboard private craft you can use medium-weight spinning tackle for this and really enjoy yourself.

Bait is no problem. Aboard party boats you'll find skimmer clam in use, or possibly whiting strips cut from the previous day's catch. Most veteran fishermen, however, fillet the first whiting they catch and use strips of this. These fishermen know nothing catches whiting as well as another piece of whiting.

Large baits are unnecessary. Medium-sized pieces of skimmer or whiting strips about two inches long and a half wide are best. When using fish bait, make sure the hook barb is exposed. The whiting will easily hook itself when this is done. This is especially effective when more than two hooks are used.

If you're on your own, or with several buddies when fishing aboard a private craft, start off with a box of sand eels or squid. Cut the eels in half if they're large; slice the squid in recommended lengths for fish bait. When you've used it all, start cutting up your smaller whiting. If you plan to do more whiting fishing at a future date, slice some of your whiting when you get home and store in the deep freeze. You won't have bait worries should it be in short supply.

Chumming isn't necessary, although some fishermen do it when first anchored. Once the fish are started, it isn't necessary to continue. What usually happens, though, is that the chum draws ling, which is okay of course if you want them, but not okay if you are strictly out for whiting. And don't forget the possibility of drawing a school of marauding dogfish. Better to use no chum and rely on the fish finding you. They will, if you are on their feeding grounds. Sometimes the use of a diamond jig will bring fish immediately.

Large pot-bellied ling are usually available on the same grounds. If you're interested, it might pay to make sure you have a hook trailing on bottom. These large ling are usually the pool-winners of any given day. You'll find, though, that most good ling fishing is not found over good whiting grounds. Ling seem to favor their own area, which may be close by, but not exactly in the same place. I've noticed, too, that when whiting vacate an area, ling take over—and vice versa. Therefore, if you are on your own and seeking whiting, you may have to drift around a bit until your fish are located.

Of course, if you are party boat-fishing, this won't concern you at all. Party boat skippers know exactly where the whiting are, and no one beats them at their own game. But if you plan a little private fishing and are a stranger at the sport, there's a few things you should know.

Look for whiting in fairly deep water, anywhere from sixty to one hundred feet. Areas in the vicinity of Ambrose Tower, the BA buoy, the old Scotland Light grounds, and the Mud Hole of giant tuna days, all have their share of whiting.

It is best to secure an up-to-date chart of the area you plan to fish. Look for notations on the composition of the bottom. You will find your best whiting fishing to be over areas marked sand or gravel. Mud bottom will sometimes have a temporary residence of whiting, but it is usually better for ling fishing.

Don't fish those spots marked as containing wrecks, rocks, etc. You will find few whiting in such areas; ling on occasion, but few whiting.

When conditions are right, you will get more action if you drift. Don't fret if you fail to get results immediately. You will—just keep drifting. When you land your first whiting, immediately drop a buoy. This marks the school and also gives you your starting point for any return drift should the fish peter out. This is important, because although most whiting schools are quite large, you may have merely drifted across one corner of it, and if so, you'll quickly drift out of range. With a marker buoy working for you, you have a reference

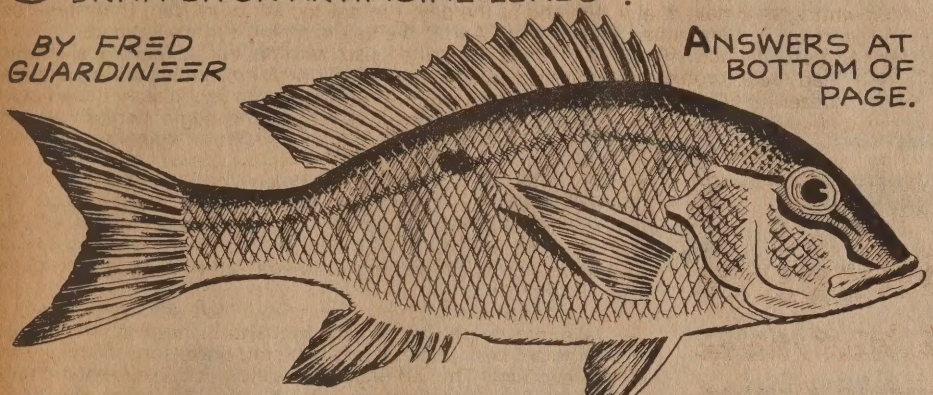
(Continued on page 8.)

THE FISHERMAN "IQ" TEST

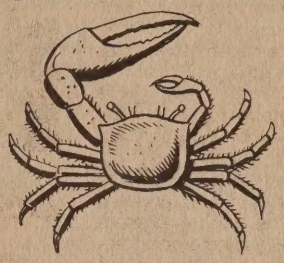
BY FRED GUARDINEER

ANSWERS AT BOTTOM OF PAGE.

(1) IS IT POSSIBLE TO CATCH THE POPULAR MUTTON SNAPPER ON ARTIFICIAL LURES ?



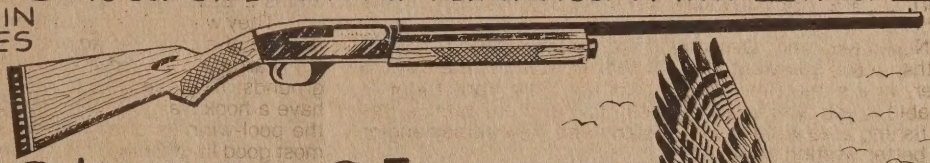
(2) THIS COMMON DENIZEN OF SALT MARSHES, CREEKS AND INLETS IS A WELL KNOWN BLACKFISH BAIT. IT IS A ...



(3) LAST WINTER THOUSANDS OF SQUID CAME ASHORE AT CAPE COD BECAUSE THEY WERE ATTRACTED BY CAR LIGHTS ☐ SNOW ON SHORE ☐ FOLLOWED BAIT FISH TOO CLOSE TO SHORE AND WERE WASHED UP BY SURF ☐

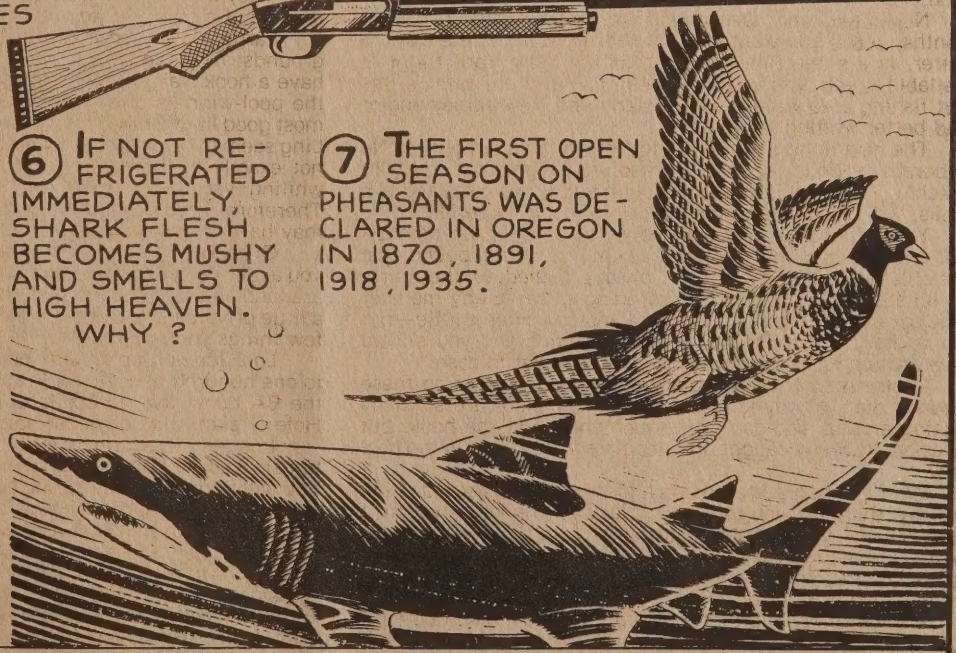
(4) THE SOFT SHELLED CLAM, USUALLY FOUND ON TIDAL FLATS, DIGS DEEP IN MID-ATLANTIC STATES AND MUST BE DREDGED OR TONGED.
TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

(5) THE U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE REQUIRES DUCK HUNTERS TO USE STEEL SHOT IN ALL SHOTGUNS. TRUE ☐ FALSE ☐



(6) IF NOT REFRIGERATED IMMEDIATELY, SHARK FLESH BECOMES MUSHY AND SMELLS TO HIGH HEAVEN. WHY ?

(7) THE FIRST OPEN SEASON ON PHEASANTS WAS DECLARED IN OREGON IN 1870, 1891, 1918, 1935.



1 - POSSIBLE BUT NOT PROBABLE. MOST ARE CAUGHT ON NATURAL BAIT SUCH AS LIVE SHRIMP. 2 - FIDDLER CRAB. 3 - BIOLOGISTS EXPLAIN THAT ALL THREE REASONS ARE POSSIBLE FOR THEIR ODD BEHAVIOR. 4 - TRUE. 5 - FALSE. ONLY IN THE WIDELY USED 12 GAUGE. LEAD SHOT CAN BE USED IN 10, 20 AND OTHER SHOTGUN GAUGES. 6 - DETERIORATING SHARK MEAT FORMS AMMONIA. 7 - 1891.

Surf Side with Fred Schwab

Gone, But Not Forgotten...

Recollections of past memorable fishing experiences and a late season conversation with LIF staffer and friend, Doc Muller, prompted me to thumb back through the years, as recorded in my fishing diary.

Weather-wise, the afternoon of November 21, 1959, left a lot to be desired. A heavy saturating mist reduced visibility to but a few hundred yards and increased the discomfort of a temperature in the forties.

There was just an occasional hint of a breeze, and as I made my way down the path from the parking lot to Montauk's Jones Reef, it became evident that there was an exceptionally calm surf. I had just arrived at the Point, was not the beneficiary of any advanced fishing news, and therefore, the sight of a lifeless surf did nothing to bolster my hopes for a successful fishing session, one which in all likelihood was to be my last of the year.

Well, at least I would have the beach pretty much to myself, or so I thought. Only two fellows were on the Reef, but once on the beach at least a dozen anglers came into view. This group was busily fishing from the rocks in front of the bluff situated midway between the Lighthouse and the Reef.

It didn't take long for a decision to be reached as to where I would fish. The two lads on the Reef seemed to be getting plenty of exercise and nothing else, while the scene under the bluff was a beehive of activity. Fish were being played, beached and unhooked....so I headed for the crowd.

If my memory serves me well, I don't think I'd taken more than a half dozen steps, when a number of gulls collected over a patch of water which suddenly erupted with fish and fleeing bait. This activity was directly in front of me and roughly a cast off the beach. Why join the crowd—there's action here! After stumbling over several rocks and a very painful collision with a boulder which refused to move aside, I reached waist deep water and laid a #4 Hopkins within the steadily expanding area of feeding activity.

Two or three cranks of the reel handle on my conventional outfit, resulted in a jolting strike and I was in. It had to be a fairly good bass and as the battle of give and take continued, I was guessing, at least high teens. Eventually the fish was within sight, but unlike most bass at this stage of the fight, there was no sign of weakening or "rolling-over."

My reaction to the first good glimpse of the fish was one of astonishment—no stripes had he. It looked like a big bluefish, and as is so typical of that species, he fought to the bitter end. (At this point, it should be explained for the benefit of those who took up surf fishing after the mid-Sixties, that bluefish were not as plentiful in the Fifties as they "were" in more recent years, at least not from the beach. Nor did it seem that they delayed their departure to warmer waters as late in the season as they now do.)

An instant before beaching this fish, I realized that it wasn't a bluefish either, and though I'd never seen one up close, I knew that I had caught my first pollack from the surf; one which later on the scales, weighed eleven pounds and change. Before dark, when pollack "normally" stopped hitting in the Montauk surf, I managed three more between five to seven pounds and each put up a good argument. Prior to leaving the Point on the morning of the twenty-third, six more pollack fell for my offerings.

While I knew that pollack were taken from the Montauk surf in spring and late fall, I hadn't seen any caught—at least not up close, never went looking for them, and quite frankly gave them very little thought—but that was all changed as of November, 1959.

A pollack from the surf is a real battler, pound for pound giving as good, if not better, account of itself than a bass. The discovery of something new, to me, made the winter following that catch....a real drag. A new season and a concentrated effort directed at catching more and bigger pollack, was uppermost in my mind. But with respect to that species, Lady Luck deserted me during the fall of 1960. Oh, I tried, but it's the old story—always in the wrong place. When they showed up at North Bar, I was on the Reef; when they were in Brown's, I was under the Light, and when I would spot them they'd be out of reach. On one occasion while fishing the Reef along with a half dozen other anglers, I took small bass while everyone else caught big pollack.

During the following three years, the Montauk surf yielded a good many pollack, with a number of them in the teens and mid-twenties, and fortune smiled upon me, for I took my share. Following these years, the pollack catch from the surf rapidly declined. In recent years such catches in the fall have been in the form of rumors, none of which have reached this writer's ears during the last two seasons. On occasion, there are some pollack taken in the spring, but these are usually very small fish.

That those fall runs no longer occur, is a real loss to the surf fisherman. Their appearance normally took place shortly before the last bluefish moved through and they'd still be around after the bass migration petered out. The pollack filled a void left by the departing bass and kept a few die-hards on the beach well into December.

The Light, Brown's, North Bar and occasionally the Reef or the Fort provided the best pollack fishing, and while a few were taken on plugs, a tin squid or Hopkins jig, fitted with a large siwash hook, was the most effective lure. Some fellows carried an assortment of tin squids painted over in bright colors; a few red and yellow tins are still hanging in my garage. The very best pollack action always occurred during the periods of dawn and dusk and almost never during full daylight, but occasionally they would be taken after dark on darters, and it seemed that some of the biggest were taken under the cloak of darkness.

During the better pollack years, in mid or late November, they would move in on the beach, just after sunset, at the exact same time and place for several days running. Knowing this, the wiser anglers would schedule their fishing accordingly. If a large school moved in and the bait was abundant, the scene would be identical to a bluefish feeding frenzy, with bait spraying in all directions, fish busting and rolling, and a cloud of excited gulls overhead. For the angler, such conditions would mean fast action, with practically every cast that landed in amongst the school producing a hit or fish; when it became dark, the action usually died.

What happened to those Montauk surf runs? Is this species subject to the cyclical phenomenon? Have there been a series of poor spawning years? Could it be that changes in water temperature, or lack of bait, are the causes? Each, or perhaps a combination of these "could be" responsible, but in my layman's opinion, commercial exploitation has contributed significantly to this loss. It's just too coincidental that the first "publicized" reports of massive foreign fishing fleets off our shores, corresponds closely with the almost total disappearance of pollack from the Montauk surf.

To further support this theory, consider the catch statistics for the New England fisheries. From 1935 through 1961, the commercial catch averaged 24,133,000 pounds per year. In 1961, the catch totaled 21,399,000 dropping to 16,331,000 for 1962, and by 1965 it was down to 11,706,000, and continued to fall off through the Sixties.

Hopefully, increased catches during the Seventies, "perhaps" due to some extremely successful spawning, indicate a recovery, and also hopefully, the pollack fishery will benefit from the recently enacted 200 Mile fisheries bill? (Provided, of course, that those who establish and monitor catch quotas for foreign fishing fleets, place the condition of **American** fisheries and the interest of **American** fishermen first, and international politics second? Let's hope that the 200 Mile Limit isn't "cleverly" turned into just another giveaway program.)

Perhaps someday Montauk surf anglers will again experience those great pollack runs. If so, I'll be there.

WHITING FISHING *(Continued from page 6.)*

point.

A word of caution: should you run out of the fish, don't be in too much of a hurry to begin another drift. Most times you'll be over another school in short order. But if no action is forthcoming in a reasonable amount of time—say twenty minutes—head back for the buoy and start again.

You'll find whiting fishing great sport. If you are a beginner at our game, whiting fishing is guaranteed to have you come back for more. Try it—you'll like it!

FISH TALK
with Dr. William A. Muller

SANDEELS
Ammodytes americanus

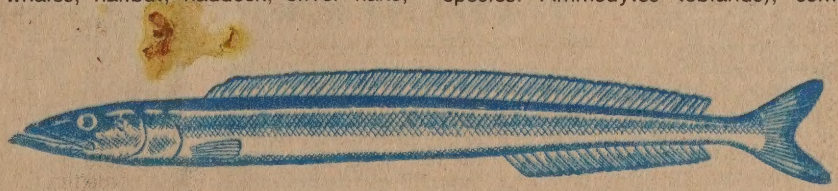
BAIT FISH AND GAME FISH! We don't usually spend a lot of room talking about bait fish, although I guess that we should. After all, the game fish feed on the little critters and one of the keys to catching the gamesters is the development of a good understanding of the food. Sand eel, lance, sand lance, launce, and lant are all names that are hung onto this slender little fish. Of course, they aren't an eel at all. However, because they are so long and thin and because they swim with a snake-like motion fishermen have been prone to call them sand eels. They have a large mouth with toothless jaws, large gill openings, and prominent eyes. There is one long dorsal fin, which is soft-rayed and contains between fifty-nine and sixty-four rays. The anal fin is much smaller and contains only twenty-eight to thirty-two rays. The tail is forked and the pectoral fins are located more towards the ventral surface. Sand eels possess no ventral fins.

COLOR VARIES! The description of the coloration of this species varies quite a bit from one account to the next and this is most likely due to the fact that the fish are capable of some amount of color change in response to the coloration of the bottom sediment. They are generally silvery with brownish dorsal surfaces. However, the lateral sides may show any one or a combination of iridescent tones. In deep, clear dark water they will be greenish, while in shallow water they may appear white or slightly red. For this reason white, red, black, and white streaked with green are good colors for tube lures when bass, blues, and weaks are feeding on sand eels.

TINY SPECIES! A sand eel is mature when about four (4) inches long. However, they do grow larger and it is not unusual to observe sand eels as long as ten (10) or even twelve (12) inches in the ocean. Small specimens are known to swarm into bays, inlets, and sounds both in late spring and then during November in our waters. Although it has not been proven, the spring inshore migration is apparently not related to spawning. Larger specimens rarely appear in shallow areas.

HABITS: Sand eels prefer sandy bottoms and this is also true in deep water, as well as in shallow water. Schools number in the tens of thousands and are usually densely packed, especially when they are being pursued by game fish. Sand eels burrow into the sand by thrusting their pointed snouts in to the sand. They are capable of going down four or five inches. At night they may rest partially buried with their heads above the sediment. Some reports have explained their sudden disappearances by referring to their burrowing habits rather than migrations due to changes in water temperatures, although the better explanation probably involves elements of both explanations. That is, they probably can seem to disappear by burrowing for a day or two, but they do prefer water that is colder than sixty degrees. Thus, they will move offshore in summer and then again in winter, when shallow and surface water may become as cold as thirty degrees.

VERY IMPORTANT IN THE FOOD CHAIN OF NORTHERN SEAS. Almost every species of everything eats sand eels, when given the chance. Bass, blues, and weaks are known to savor these creatures in shallow water, but cod, pollack, whiting, ling, and fluke chase the fish around all over the Continental Shelf. In addition, finback whales, halibut, haddock, silver hake, salmon, mackerel, and porpoises eat them with gusto. In fact, porpoises have been seen rooting them out of the sand. Of course, these mammals are bright critters and one should not be surprised that they have developed a complex behavior to get their food. However, striped bass do the same thing with just a slightly different twist.



SMART BASS! I have observed that striped bass will force sand eels out of the sand in shallow water on calm nights. They seem to prefer to pull this little trick at low tide when the water is skinny. They will move into an area and rub their bellies in the sand. The commotion and the vibrations stir up the sand eels that dart out of the sand by the thousands. The bass then jump all over them. This is a behavior that is unique to bass among the fishes that feed in our shallow water. Other fish that like sand eels, such as weaks, fluke, and sundials, seem to be unable to stir up the resting sand eels after it gets dark. However, these other species will take advantage of the conditions that are created by the bass. Usually, the pattern is predictable. The bass will get things stirred up and you will catch only stripers. After awhile you take an occasional weak or blue and then eventually you catch blues and weaks until the sand eels settle back into the sand and then you'll catch nothing. At times, you can catch plenty of weaks and blues without help from bass, but this usually occurs where a strong tidal current keeps the sand eels out of the sand.

SAND EELS EAT MOSTLY CRUSTACEANS. Copepods are among their favorite meals, and in the spring, these barely macroscopic beasts are so abundant in shallow bays that they may cloud the water. They also eat amphipods with glee and this is the relationship that made the summer of 1977 fishing work so well at Montauk. Montauk waters were rich in amphipods, in fact, it was a veritable bloom of the crustacean. The sand eels could be seen casually feeding on the amphipods on calm days when the blues and weaks were not within shouting distance. However, sand eels will also feed on fish fry from all species and worms.

SPAWNING. Although the exact nature of the spawning habit is not well understood for this species (much better information is available for the European species: Ammodytes tobianus), some information has been either deduced from related species or gleaned from plankton tows taken in western Atlantic waters. The bulk of the spawning seems to occur between late December and early February, although the spawning season is progressively later as one samples northward, occurring mostly in March in the area of Georges Bank.

GROWTH RATE: Again we have to guess quite a bit as to the rate of growth, but most fisheries biologists seem to agree that sand eels of about three (3) or four (4) inches are yearlings, because they seem to be most abundant during June and July. These specimens may be four (4) or five (5) inches long when they reappear in the fall. Two-year-old fish are probably between five (5) and seven (7) inches long and the largest specimens are probably four or five years old. Thus, the maximum life span seems to be about five years.

RANGE: The range of the species extends from Cape Hatteras to the Gulf of St. Lawrence and Labrador. However, they appear to be most abundant from Maine to southern New Jersey. They have been observed in great numbers as far south as Cape May at times.

CYCLICAL NATURE. Like almost all fish, sand eels appear to go through periods of great abundance and scarcity. The trends appear to be upward for the last three or four years. In 1977, most inshore areas reported great numbers of the bait fish and it appears that the increase in abundance should hold for several more years. Thus, fishing should be excellent in those areas that traditionally harbor sand eels. Places such as Montauk, the south shore inlets, and L.I. Sound are several examples.

INSHORE FISHING

with Scott J. Simons

'77 A BANNER YEAR?

What kind of fishing did you have in 1977? Personally, I'd say it was excellent, a "banner" year, for several reasons. But please read everything I have to say before you write those letters about how bad the bass fishing was or disappointing the weakfish were. First, keep in mind that almost all species of fish are cyclical in their populations, and it is not in the way of nature to have **every** fish at peak population levels simultaneously. In fact, who would honestly want them to be? Think about it: if the various game fish attained their peak populations in the same years, it stands to reason that they would have their **lowest** populations at the same time also. Fishing would then become a sport of feast or famine. One year you'd catch so many fish you'd probably get so bored that you'd take up quoits or something else exciting, while the next year there wouldn't be anything to catch. So the balance of nature is just that—a balance of our enjoyment. By having some species at the top of their population cycle while others are on the down-cycle, we always have something plentiful enough to fish for. So don't be a hardhead and insist on fishing for species that are in a down-cycle (like the striped bass), then go around moaning and groaning about what a dismal year of fishing you had in 1977. Why weren't you fishing for bluefish on the south shore? Weakfish, fluke, or sea bass? So there weren't many swordfish taken this year—how about the white marlin, makos, blue sharks and giant tuna? There was no excuse for not having a banner year in 1977—unless you chose to have one.

The year started off, as usual, with the spring run of flounder. Flounder fishing has been somewhat depressed for several years now, and this spring was no exception. Fishing neither improved nor deteriorated further for the flatties, with just enough being caught to keep the fishermen happy and occupied until other species arrived to pick up the action. The big fishing news of the spring was the phenomenal run of cod and pollack off Montauk in April and May. Anglers fishing from open boats and charter boats as well as private vessels literally massacred the fish off Block Island, where huge schools of cod in the fifteen to thirty pound range and giant pollack averaging twenty to twenty-five pounds spent the better part of two months gorging themselves on sand eels. For the first time in years, open boats were sailing at capacity on weekends at a time of the year when light crowds were usually the rule. This spring cod and pollack fishing has been improving by leaps and bounds now for three years, and there's no reason to believe that the action won't be even better in the spring of '78. If a spring charter for cod and pollack isn't in your plans next year, it should be.

Once again, mackerel fishing was a big disappointment. The schools were smaller than ever, and the fish in a school weren't as dense. Although outstanding catches were made quite often, these didn't present a true picture of the trouble the fishery is really in. Boats had to travel many miles in search of fish that were usually scattered, providing "picky" fishing in general. Although the low population levels of the mackerel are well documented, foreign fleets were permitted by NMFS and the State Department to catch millions of pounds of macks, decimating the stocks even further. But there is hope in the future—the Regional Councils' have protested the actions and are sensitive to the mackerel problem, which should be reflected in their management plans for the recovery of the mackerel stocks. Hopefully, the politics will vanish in the near future.

Fluke fishing was excellent in most areas, down in a few, but actually improved in others. The overall picture seems to be that fluke fishing in general may have reached a peak two or three years ago and has slowly been slipping backwards since. But fishing was still excellent, and the number of small and "short" fluke to be found indicates that the fluke fishing should continue to be good in the foreseeable future, although not in the same quantity and quality we have become accustomed to. Blowfish were a little more plentiful than last year, which means they were still almost non-existent in the south shore bays. Lafayettes or "spots" were more plentiful than ever and provided a lot of fun for the light-tackle set, but they confined their range for the most part to the western bays and the N. Y. Bight area in general.

Trying to analyze the quality of weakfishing in 1977 will probably become the source of controversy. In certain areas like Great South Bay and the Peconics, weakfishing was decidedly down from previous years, while in other areas such as Montauk and the North Shore phenomenal runs of fish were experienced. North Shore surf fishermen were particularly happy with the big weakfish taken from the shore throughout the summer. At Montauk, huge schools of weakfish were discovered to have set up residence in the Triangle, and provided private boats and charter boats with spectacular fishing while trolling or diamond jigging until the arriving hordes of bluefish finally outnumbered them and became too much competition for the available bait fish and forced the weaks to vacate the area. Weakfish were also more plentiful on the Connecticut side of the Long Island Sound, further indicating that they were expanding their range. Unfor-

Stu Miller, center (with the stupid grin), and Scott Simons heft pollack taken during this spring's phenomenal run of cod and pollack off Block Island.

Fluke fishing was still excellent virtually everywhere, but there are signs that the fishing may be slowly tapering off.

unately, as the range expanded, certain areas experienced smaller weakfish populations as a natural consequence—thus he disappointing fishing in Great South Bay and the Peconics. But the fishing was only disappointing in a relative sense, when compared with recent years. Disappointing, yes—but still great fishing by any standard. What does the future hold? From what I have heard and read, it seems there is evidence that the weakfish may be at the top of their cycle, about to start downward. Each year the average weight of the weaks has risen, with few smaller fish being added to the population. At worst, we have several years left of great weakfishing for big tiderunners and the IGFA records will probably start falling like a row of dominoes. The next few years will likely tell the story, when we see if the young of the year weakfish survive the winters to become a new successful year class.

To analyze the '77 bluefishing season, we'll divide the Island into three areas: the South Shore, Montauk, and the North Shore. They key word here was food. On the south shore and Montauk where the sand eels were abundant, fishing was fantastic. But on the north shore, where the lack of bunker schools or an alternate source of food wasn't available, the fishing was dismal. Talk to most north shore fishermen and they may believe from their experiences of '77 that the bluefish is in trouble and on a downward trend in their cycle. But try to find the same opinions voiced by south shore or Montauk fishermen! On the south shore, huge schools of blues fed voraciously on the sand eels all summer. As a result, they shunned the chumming and chunk bait fishing techniques, at least in the daylight hours. Most open boats eventually abandoned chumming and switched their fishermen over to diamond jigs and banana tube lures. Bluefishing was another plus for Montauk also, which had one of its best overall fishing years in recent times. With unbelievable day-in day-out consistency, private and charter boats loaded their boats with blues trolling umbrella rigs or diamond jigging at the Triangle, Submarine Buoy, or just about anywhere you dropped a line. Fortunately for the north shore fishermen, the excellent fall run of big blues they are experiencing recently may bail out the year for them.

Porgy fishing remained excellent as it has been for several years now, and may even be improving. Areas known for good porgy action like the Peconics, Montauk, Gardiner's Island and the north shore, all had excellent runs of fish. Sea bass continued their remarkable comeback, increasing their range, size and numbers. Although they arrived late on the east end, once the sea bass settled in their numbers and average size kept everyone happy. South shore wreck fishermen racked up impressive scores of big humpbacks, and some big fish were also taken on the north shore. Undoubtedly one of the most underfished species on Long Island, the sea bass are waiting in the wings to take up the slack when another bottom fish goes into a down cycle and fishermen look for a replacement.

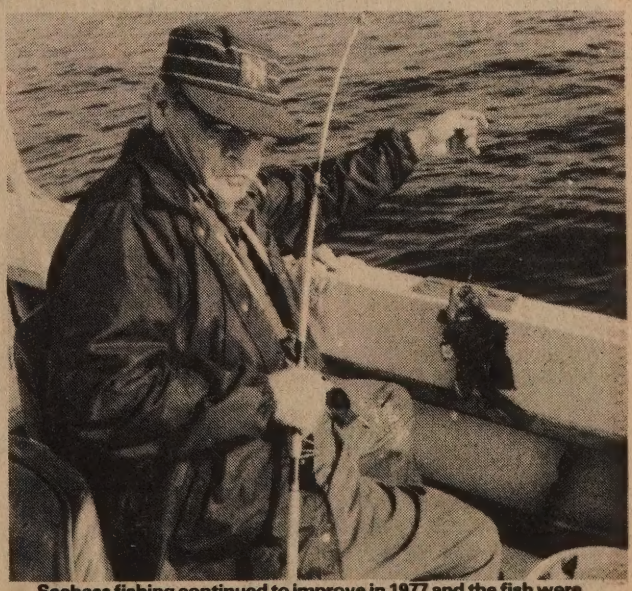
Striped bass—the less said the better. As expected, a big disappointment virtually everywhere, with the exception of Montauk. North shore was a wipe-out, as was south shore bass fishing. Even the bucktailers in Plum Gut had a tough time of it. While Montauk's spring run never really got itself together for anything that could be considered consistent, there were a few good spurts of daytime bass fishing and a pick of fish almost all summer. Night fishing was very good, if not great, around the full moon periods. The fall run of fish, which is still going on as this is being written, was excellent in both quality and quantity. Average fish ranged from fifteen to twenty pounds, with thirty pound class fish common, forties not unusual, and many fifties taken both day and night. The predictions of "last of the dinosaurs" seems to be holding up, and the desperate need for a successful year class to replace these larger fish in the future becomes more obvious with each passing year.

Giant tuna—the greatest year the offshore fishermen have ever had. The Mudhole south of Block Island provided great fishing for giants ranging up to 1,100 pounds, with fish under seven hundred pounds considered almost to be "rats." You can chalk up this unexpected big game fishing to one of the few successes to date of the 200 Mile Limit legislation. The tuna were attracted to and stayed in the Mudhole because of the abundant food supply of whiting and ling. In previous years, the foreign fleets had systemtically caught most of these bait fish. But this year they weren't permitted to fish in the area at all, so the ling and whiting weren't disturbed, eventually attracting a population of giant bluefin tuna. When the bait fish did finally move to other areas, the giants were right behind them. But the fishing was great while it lasted, and Montauk had the best '77 run of giant tuna on the East Coast.

The overall offshore fishing this year can only be described as excellent. Mako sharks were taken in unprecedented numbers, as were blue sharks. The wide range of other sharks showed up in good numbers, like browns, duskies, hammerhead, and tigers. White sharks and porbeagles were few and far between, but that is nothing unusual for these species. The offshore white marlin fishing was also excellent: one of the best seasons in years.

As I said at the beginning of this column, there wasn't any reason a fisherman shouldn't have had a good fishing year in 1977. That is, unless you tried to , by focusing on one particular species that wasn't plentiful in a restricted geographic area. If you weren't guilty of this and still had a bad year, I suggest you take a hard look at the fishing methods and techniques you have been using—there's something wrong somewhere.

Bass fishing was a wash-out almost everywhere except at Montauk and in Plum Gut. The abundance of sandeels, however, resulted in a banner year for south shore bluefish.



Seabass fishing continued to improve in 1977 and the fish were big, like this nice "humpback" caught by the author's father, Bill Simons, off of Block Island.

Using Popping Plugs in the Western L.I. Sound

by Bill Herold

"An oftentimes misunderstood lure has proven itself a full season winner along Long Island Sound's shores."

Long Island Sound + the fall bass migration + surface poppers = pleasures to purists of popping plugs. The often overlooked surface popper is an artificial which virtually every saltwater fisherman owns, and nine out of ten tote along on each and every outing of the year. Yet few, if any, apply themselves in discovering the full dimensions of this simple mechanism for attracting striped bass.

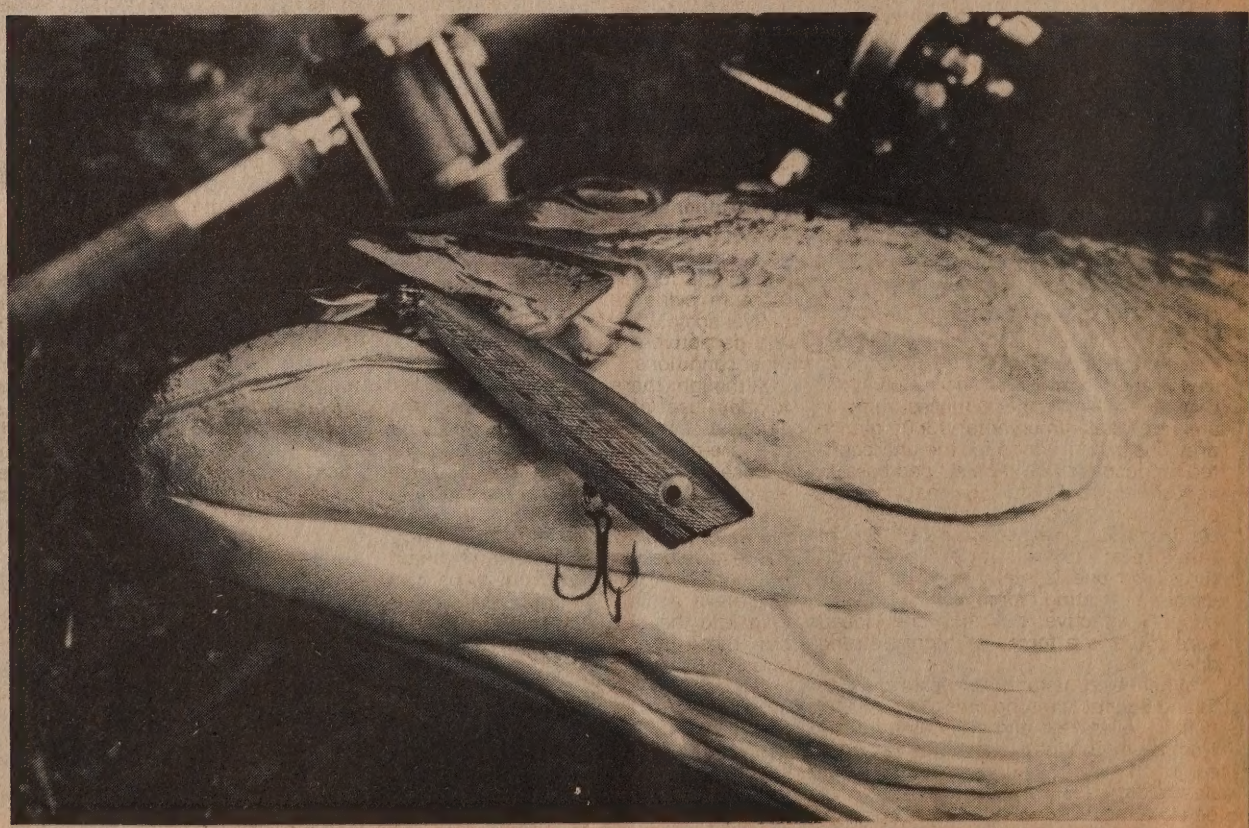
Customizing runs rampant in the case of the popper: i.e., floaters, ones that sink at rest, weighted rear sections, bucktail dressings, hollow models with noise-makers, large-mouthed, small-mouthed, cheater rigs—it's endless and it's fun! Poppers are employed because of the excitement and visual appeal of their subsequent strikes. Who can refute the feeling of satisfaction at being able to actually perceive the pursuit and attack of your quarry.

In western Long Island Sound, first blood was drawn in late April with the popper being indirectly responsible. A "cheater rig" which is no more than a surface popper in conjunction with a dropper lure (usually a bucktail jig of sorts) either preceding it or trailing it, was the initial set-up to lay claim to a linesider. Dozens of plump shorts ravished the trailing bucktail which fluttered enticingly in the wake of the 5/8 ounce surface popper during the latter days of April. With the advent of May, these same midgets and a good representation of their more muscled brethren showed a distinct penchant for the popper itself and shunned the trailer in its favor. From this point on, the solitary popper would account for a single angler's landing of better than four hundred stripers through November along the rock-strewn shorelines of Westchester County in New York and the southern tier of the Connecticut shoreline.

This represents nearly 150 days plying these waters. The success ratio days afloat and fish taken on the surfa run somewhere in the neighborhood of three out of four, which should te even the novice something: poppers a effective! Over 400 surface-caught ba harvested or released, nineteen bett than twenty pounds, X-amount lost missed, the unexcelled delight whi comes with taking bass on top—a conjure up one unavoidable truth—su face poppers are top shelf.

It is my opinion that a popp possesses two qualities to ensu success in the proper hands. Namel the capacity to splash or burp substantial volume of water with ea movement, and the ability to slo vigorously from side to side during t retrieve. These two features alone w register surprising results even to t uninitiated.

All poppers are not the same, and t

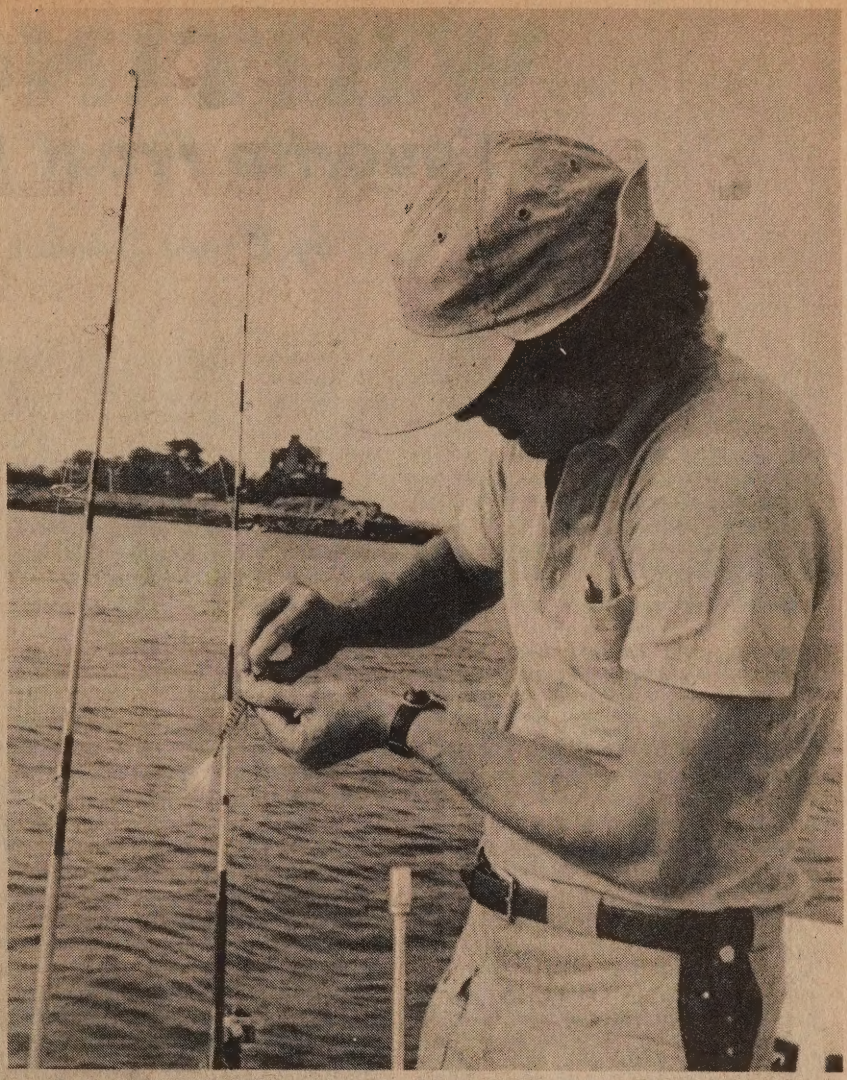


The mouth of a 32 lb. bass which fell victim to a popping plug.

hundreds of models and varieties which adorn the shelves and wall of innumerable stores and homes attest to the obvious. For performance and results, the Windcheater and Striper Strike series by Rebel and Creek Chub respectively, are paramount in this direction. There are indeed others of equal fame and construction, but these two supply those certain qualities which are requisite to success in the waters of the Sound. The Rebel casts like a bullet and chugs water like a bilge pump; while the smallest Creek Chub has a certain size and color patterns which ensure its necessity during certain periods of the year. Half to three-quarter ounce models are prime targets for the angler who wants school bass. Of course, poppers are not restricted to use with striped bass. Witness those canny commercial fishermen throughout the Sound who splash oversized poppers in the outer wash of their boats while also dragging the conventional wire rigs for choppers. These fellows are solely interested in dollars and cents; so it stands to reason that such a routine is effective. Many is the day that more brute blues were drawn to the top plugs like magnets than submerged lures.

So why do they catch fish? Fair enough question; but in truth one can only "speculate." There are three main schools of thought as to what makes poppers work as well as they do. The first is that striped bass are basically territorial fish; and usually will display decidely aggressive behavior towards most intruders; i.e., the popper. The second is a spin-off from the first. It is considered the irritant theory. Reason being that bass are just easily irritated under many circumstances and will strike out at most anything which disrupts the norm. Third and most well regarded is the obvious semblance the popper has of a wounded bait fish when worked properly. All three theories are feasible on their own or in conjunction and have been batted around for years; but perhaps it goes just a shade beyond such tangible conceptions. Consider this: how common an occurrence is it to find a few dollars blowing by in the wind or simply laying unmolested in public places? What is the "normal" human response to spying money on the floor of say Grand Central Station in New York City? He or she either pounces immediately or takes a momentary 360° glance previous to their lunge for the unaccounted for good fortune! Are striped bass so very different? Could it be that the loud and raucous popper represents a similar syndrome of unexpected good luck to these relatively misunderstood creatures? No one is really sure as to the exact motivating **force** which makes poppers effective, but they are indeed sure there is a **force**—a mighty strong one!

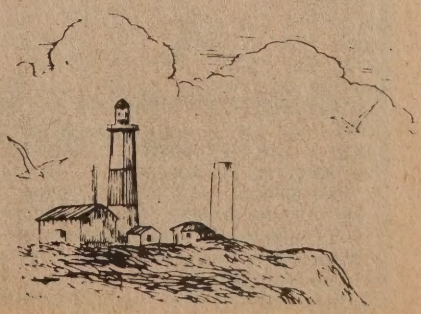
When boat fishing in western Long Island Sound, spinning rods of six-and-a-half to seven feet and bait-casting rods from seven to eight feet are excellent in conjunction with poppers. There has been a dramatic increase in popularity of bait-casting throughout the saltwater scene in New England, and rods of seven and eight foot lengths are more and more in evidence. These longer poles deliver some unbelievably long casts and are deceptively easy to handle under most conditions.



Author attaches a 1/2 ounce mackerel popper. Late fall sees sporadic runs of lunker mackerel which can prompt some top water action.

Although there are applications for midday use of surface poppers, the epitome of their worth is unveiled with the pre-dawn traces of sun and its demise at twilight. This special four-hour period of two hours in the morning and two hours in the evening, are when top water poppers really earn their keep. There have been many out-sized fish laid on shore by the adventurous ones who persevere and lazily wobble a popper long into the black hours of the night; but these are the sidelights of the lure—not the ideal.

Surface poppers cast farther than most lures due to the inherent dynamics of their engineering. This is a tremendously underplayed benefit, as most any surf caster will substantiate. The supreme point about the practicality of surface poppers lies in the fact that these lures are always visible to their employers. This in itself is tremendously beneficial because the angler is in constant visual contact with the lure and is able to focus his or her attention where it belongs; this renders better and more consistent concentration, and in every sport unquestionably "concentration" is the password to success. So there they are—the essentials of why the "**surface popper**" so properly deserves to be considered "Mr. All-around of western Long Island Sound!"



WHITING—
Favorite Frost Fish!

by Bruce Sucher

It was the kind of morning you just don't want to wake up to. Especially if the night before you decided to spend the day on the water. The weatherman had promised fair skies and unseasonal warmth, but from my window I could see it was all a joke. The wind was slapping the frozen branches around and the small puddles on the sidewalk in front of my house were shiny and quite solid. But I am a fanatic and if the boats would sail, I would be on one.

I said a silent prayer and my twelve-year-old Lemans with 115,000 miles started. Down in the bay there was not much activity, but I put my tackle on board and hoped enough people would show so we could get out. I went for a cup of coffee, and by the time I returned to the boat, I could see Frank Fields was right. The wind had diminished to a breeze, and now that the sun was up, the breeze was mild. Enough people had arrived, so I knew we would be sailing. I rushed back to the car and took a middle-weight spinning outfit out of the trunk. I put a few one ounce shrimp-tail lures into my parkas' pocket and returned to the boat. There were few enough people on board for me to experiment with the light spin-rod and I placed it with my mid-weight conventional outfit near the bow. Since I knew we'd be drifting for the whiting and ling, I did not go to the stern—the coveted spot for boats fishing at anchor.

Still the wind continued to diminish, and by the time we passed the Breezy Point jetty the weather was truly beautiful. I took off my first layer of clothing, a nylon shell, and started rigging up. On my conventional outfit I tied on three 4/0 Sproats with twelve inches of thirty pound leader material. The first I tied six inches above the eight-ounce sinker; the second a foot above the first, and the third about sixteen inches above the second. The reel, a 150 Surfmaster (a 26-year veteran), was filled with twenty-five pound test line of good quality. I have found that no matter what the conditions, the lighter line is not only a superior producer, but easier to use as it has less drag in the water; even on fast drifts I can get by with an eight ounce sinker. If the drift is slow, I can reduce that weight to six ounces and I've used as little as four. The only drawback to using this line, or even lighter, is that it will not take much abuse, and has to be changed more frequently than thirty or forty pound mono. But if the drag is set properly, twenty-five pound test will withstand the efforts of truly huge fish.

The Ambrose Tower—a beacon for the south shore whiting fisherman.

My other rod seemed out of place. It was a seven foot, fast taper spin-rod, and reel. The line weight was eight pound test and this seemed like thread next to the more substantial stuff loaded on the conventional outfits. I tied on a black snap-swivel and clipped on the plastic lure. I felt the choice of lures was good. I have caught so many different varieties of fish on it that I was sure the whiting would be no exception.

The Ambrose Tower grew larger on the horizon. I could see a number of other boats, most of them from Jersey and one from New Rochelle. The deep water and mud bottom near the Tower is one of the most productive areas for these winter fish. It has also produced the occasional cod—a bonus for any winter fisherman. I felt the boat's engine slow and then a short burst of reverse and we were motionless. One honk and it was time to fish.

The bait was herring cut into strips. I chose three streamlined strips and put them on by running the hooks through one end, much like you would put a strip bait on for fluke. I do this because I feel there will be less water resistance and, therefore, the bait will not spin and tangle itself. I also figure the bait will have more action and will seduce a wary whiting into feeding.

I cast out a short distance from the boat and felt the sinker hit bottom. I reeled in the slack and within ten seconds, felt a good rap-rap-rap, then I

set the hook. It was a nice whiting and although it tried bravely to avoid the bucket, it was soon on board. The bait was intact, so I sent it back down. Again I was into a fish. This time I left it on the bottom and I felt a second fish hit. I lifted the rod and I knew I had a double, maybe a triple. I pumped them up through the eighty feet of water and at the surface I could see the three fish—two, two-pounders and one midget fighting against me and each other. I lifted them on board. I took the smallest fish, filleted it and cut each fillet into a number of narrow tapered strips about three-and-a-half inches long. I placed the strips on the three hooks the same way as the herring bait. At times, herring strips are superior bait, but today with the fish feeding heavily, the whiting would remain on the hook longer. I could catch five or so fish on each strip and that meant dry hands. (You don't have to take your gloves off to unhook a fish, but you generally do for the more delicate operation of re-baiting.)

Within half an hour, the five-gallon bucket was full to the top. Everyone else on board was getting their fill of fish, too. I put the conventional rod aside and readied the spinning outfit. I cast the one ounce shrimp-tail as far as I could into the direction of the drift. I left slack line and waited about a minute for the lure to hit bottom. When I saw that the lure had stopped sinking, I began sharply bouncing the tip about one foot. On about the eighth bounce, I felt a solid weight and lifted the tip hard to set the hook. The fish tugged lethargically, but wouldn't give an inch. Then gradually it started giving ground, occasionally running a short distance and then succumbing to the power of the drag. With the one-handed outfit, it turned into hard work and my wrist felt the strain. I braced the base of the rod against my forearm and that helped, but on this weight tackle there was no horsing the fish through the eighty feet of water.

On the surface the whiting made a last run and then I lowered my rod tip and lifted in onto the boat. It was a very nice fish of over two pounds. The outfit continued to catch fish, and strangely enough, they were all a good deal larger than the average. After about a dozen fish, I was pooped and I asked one of the mates if he would like to try. He set his rod down, and took the spinning rod. He learned very shortly that whiting, when given the opportunity, can prove themselves worthy opponents. A few others tried it, and they, too, enjoyed the experience. After about twenty fish, the shrimp-tail looked pretty haggard. The whiting's needle sharp bridgework had taken its toll on the soft plastic.

I had my fill of catching fish after the first hour of fishing. The rest of the day was spent in taking photographs, drinking coffee in the galley, and helping the mates fill their tubs with fish to sell at the dock. Anyone who could hold a rod had a minimum of fifty pounds of fish. It was one of those days that makes up for the fruitless ones in any angler's life. The tasty fish would fill many freezers, and I can only hope that the anglers with small ice boxes would restrain themselves. It was time to return to Sheepshead Bay.

If you want to try whiting fishing with a light spin rod, then I suggest you do it on a weekday. Light line means tangles on a crowded boat, and you'd soon find yourself very unpopular. The best whiting boats are to be found in Brooklyn, Captree, Freeport, Lindenhurst, Northern Jersey and The Bronx. You never know when the fish will be feeding heavily, but you're sure to catch some. I know I've never been disappointed by these fish and I don't think you will be.

This fisherman didn't finish cleaning his catch of whiting until the boat returned to the dock.

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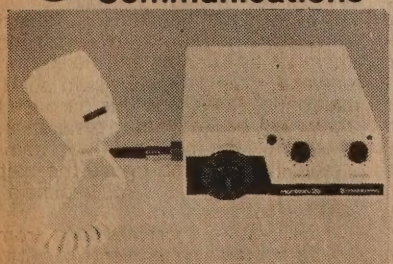

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SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

MONTAUK

★ BASS & BLUES ★

The bass fishing is still down but bluefishing is actually improving. The waters around the lighthouse are still dirty from the high winds and very few fish are being taken inshore. But the bluefish are back in the Triangle, and it seems that a new body of fish has moved into the area. Real gorillas, these fish range from 14 to 18 lbs and are shaped like torpedoes. Bass are still plentiful up north and the water is still warm, judging by the presence of bluefish, so there is no reason to believe that the bass fishing won't pick up again as soon as we have a few days of relatively calm weather.

Capt. Bud of the **Viking Skipper II** called to say that the weekend fishing produced bags of bluefish for the anglers aboard, but no bass were taken. But Bud heard of some stripers still being taken by charterboats, although not many. Bud said that this coming Saturday and Sunday he will wind up the diamond jigging for bass and bluefish for this year. The fall run of fish produced some great catches for open boat anglers aboard the Viking Skipper II, topped off by a bass of 50½ lbs.

Capt. Fritz Hubner of the charter boat **Mistress Too** has been fishing the triangle and taking loads of blues on umbrellas. A few bass are mixed in.

★ COD & BLACKS ★

Capt. Richard Rade of the **Marlin IV** reported that the blackfishing is excellent off Block Island. Anglers are using green crabs for bait, which are available on the boat and

Jack Quinlan of Poughquhe, N.Y. with his first Montauk bluefish of 12 lbs., caught aboard the "Viking Starship."

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FREE SPIRIT Capt. Frank Maccaro (516) 929-4881	**Four Queens** Capt. Whitey Bateman (516) 281-7703	**MUD SHARK** CAPT. JOHN ESCOFFIER (516) 267-8829
SA-GEE CAPT. FRED RIEGE (516) 261-3662	**Sea Doll** CAPT. GENE KELLY (516) 668-2019	**Wee Mac** Capt. Harry McAllister (212) 225-1158

are cleaning up the fish. The blackfish average 6 to 8 lbs. with bulldogs of 12 to 14 lbs. mixed in. Captain said that they are also picking a few codfish, pollack, and a few large sea bass that are still in the area.

Capt. Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Fishing Fleet** said that the weather has been holding up the fall run of cod, but the blackfishing is excellent. Most of the cod are being taken on wreck trips when the weather permits. Paul said that this week he is taking the new **Viking Starship** up to the shipyard in Rhode Island for about a week to have work completed on the heated rails and the new heated deck to keep the feet warm for winter codfishing. While the Starship is in the shipyard, the **Viking Star** will be sailing daily at 5 AM for cods and blacks.

Capt. Ron Gradinetti of the charter boat **Julie III** called to say his party of three on Saturday led by Mike K. resulted in over 100 blacks up to 10¼ lbs., taken at Pocketbook Ledge.

★ SURF REPORT ★

Johnny Kronech of **Johnny's Tackle** reported that virtually nothing is being taken on the beach with the exception of a couple of stray bass that were weighed in. Johnny said that he thinks the fishing from the beach is all over—not that anything you could call a fall run ever really got started. John said that if the action doesn't pick up this weekend, he may close up the shop for the season.

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HAMPTON BAYS

Corr's Fishing Station tells us that weather permitting, flounder fishing in Shinnecock bay remains good. With larger catches of flounder being taken, some up to 2½ lbs. Bigger fish are being taken off the Greenlawn and east of the East Channel. Smaller fish are to be found off Cormorant Point and Shinnecock Canal. Blood or sand worms along with mussel or corn chum is the ticket. Corr's will be open for boat rentals through November 27.

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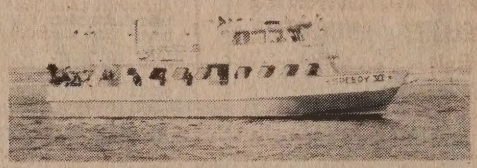

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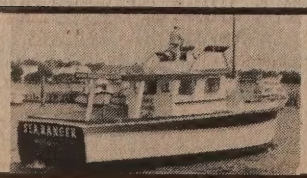

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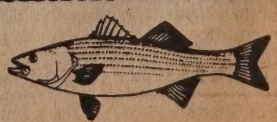

MORICHES BAY

East Moriches Bait and Tackle tells us that John Zengel and Don Lamberti took 50 flounders on bloodworms and mussel chum at the Westhampton Beach Bridge. Other catches in the teens were made at buoy 42 in spurts. Some big crabs were taken at buoys 42, 43 and 29 and are going after mackerel and bunker best. Blues still outside on umbrellas, with purples and greens working well.

Larry at **L&M Marine** reported that due to the sloppy weather, most of the boats haven't been doing very well with the flounder. But the fish are definitely around and are willing to be caught, as shown by the catch made on Saturday by Fred Lubanski and Bill Seidel. Fishing through both tides east of buoy 54, they boated 70 flounder to 3 lbs., with the majority of the catch 2 lbs. and over. The secret was staying in one spot and chumming heavily with corn and mussels. Both bloodworms and sand worms were used for bait.

OAK BEACH

The Store wishes you all happy holidays and says that with duck season beginning on Wednesday, they will continue to be open seven days a week as they are all year, with hot food and drinks, info and instructions if necessary to bag a quacker. Their ramp is also available for duck boats.

CAPTREE

Capt. Neil Delanoy of the charterboat **Lady Ann** called to say that it looks like the wind during the week killed the codfishing, which was off to a good start and seemed to be building. The only day the boat sailed was on Sunday, when they fished two wrecks and open bottom. Total catch for the day was only one cod of 27 lbs., about 30 jumbo sea bass ranging up to 5 lbs., and a few big bluefish. Hopefully we'll get a few days of windless weather that will allow the cod to settle in and will have the good fall fishing everyone is expecting.

BABYLON

Augie's Bait and Tackle reports good for some people with 33 being taken by three friends in one skiff fishing the Babylon flats with worms and mussel chum. Another boat had 25 and another customer had five flounder, so we can see that some gets 'em and some gets a lot. Bloodworms, red dyed clams, chumming a strict necessity. One cod was taken on open bottom, an 18 pounder by Jim Taylor of the Babylon Tuna Club on the Boat Chris Ann. A 20 lb. 1 oz. bluefish has been submitted for a possible IGFA record on 6 pound test. The fish was caught on Sunday by Jeff Schneider of Fish Unlimited Taxidermy. This was at Montauk and Jeff also took a 12 lb. 3 oz. black and a 20 plus pound bass.

Joe Koestner of the Squaw Island Fishing Club called to give us some partial results of the Club's "All Club Invitational Codfish Tournament" held last weekend. Joe fished with Capt. John Suss aboard the "Little John" in a 95 foot trough they found southeast of Fire Island Inlet. John took three cod weighing 25 lbs. 8. oz., 24 lbs. 5 oz. and 20 lbs. 5 oz. Joe pulled in a cod of 22 lbs. 9 oz. that obviously had an overwhelming death wish. Fred Hagermeyer on the Jo Lyn IV took a cod of 23 lbs. even. Joe said that all of these fish were taken on open bottom, and he only heard of three fish taken on wrecks during the two-day tourney.

LINDENHURST

John at **Charlie's Bait and Tackle** tells us of a 30 lb. 5 oz. striper taken Wednesday in the dark at Democrat Point on Kastmasters. The lucky angler was Bob Browneski of Lindenhurst. This fish was weighed in at Charlie's Bait and Tackle. Flounders are being picked off Heckscher, at the Copiague Hole, in the State Channel and at Fox Creek.

COPIAGUE

Jonas' Bait and Tackle tells us that some very good flounder catches were made on the weekend, particularly about 150 yards off the Copiague Beach. One customer had 46,

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another had 9, another had 24. Both boat and surf casters took flounder. This was o worms and clam.

AMITYVILLE

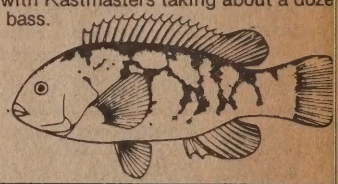
George Combs Bait and Tackle reports tha a few cod were taken Saturday in 90 feet c water on open bottom by members of th Squaw Island Fishing Club. Fish ran from 1 to 20 lbs. A few flounder at Ft. Neck Point and West Island. The water is very dirty, s you've got to chum heavily to bring the fish t you. Duck season starts on Wednesday an George asked us to announce that he book gunning parties as he does every year. Ca him if interested.

BELLMORE

Roy at **Merrick Marine Supplies** report some cod being taken on open bottom from 7 to 90 feet of water.

MERRICK

Nick's Fishing Station reports 20 flounde taken aboard one of their skiifs Saturday fishing the third pole off their Texaco sig with worm and mussel chum. The Marjon ha a few cod on open bottom in 85 ft. of wate Merrick Point produced very well on Saturda to the tune of 80 fish on worms and cla chum. Fishing picked up on Sunday afte noon. In general the area has been slow pic and you have to work for your fish. Jimmi tells us that on Saturday morning, a Merric resident fished the Huntington area from th beach with Kastmasters taking about a doze school bass.



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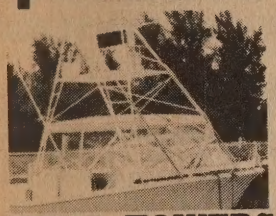

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N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

Capt. Richie of the **Starstream II** reports that he has been catching a mixed bag of cod, blackfish, ling, porgies and sea bass. On Friday, seven cod were taken; on Saturday, 8 nice cod were had, and on Sunday, Neil Kalisher won the pool with a 29 pounder. The Captain said that with good weather and cooling water, the fishing should improve by the end of the month.

The **Capt. Al** reports that fishing has been slow because of the rough weather but should improve within the next few weeks. He has been taking from one to five cod per day, along with some blackfish which are starting to show. The cod have been taken from the NB buoy, Cholera and other wrecks and range from 15 to 25, and up to 40 lbs.

The **Aloma II** reports good fishing for blackfish and ling at local wrecks. Average catches from 10-20 fish per person up to 6 lbs. were taken on Sunday. The Captain is hoping that the codfish will follows.

The **Miss Freeport** reports that fishing has slowed because of the high winds and extremely rough seas. The Miss Freeport will continue to sail on weekends to come.

The **Blue Fin II** reports that on Sunday he fished southeast of Jones Inlet on local wrecks with green crabs and skimmers and took 400-500 blackfish up to six pounds. The Surf and Stream Fishing Club of the Bronx took all the blackfish along with some ling. Larry Mirra was high hook with 66 keepers and Sam DeThomas took the pool with a 6 lb. black. The boat has only two more openings left for codfish this year.

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Beckmann's Tackle reports that flounder action has slowed, but for those who go out, a dozen or so flounder up to 1 lb. can be taken in Reynold's Channel on worms.

JAMAICA BAY

Cross Bay Bait and Tackle reports that flounder can be found at the north and south channel bridges and Silver Hole. These fish are averaging a half pound. Blackfish can also be found at the North and South Channel Bridges and Marine Parkway Bridge is the best bet. The fish are averaging one-half lb. and are taking clams and fiddlers.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

The **New Zephyr** reports very good fishing off Jersey for the weekend. On Saturday, fishing started slow with a few one lb. blackfish taken, but as time passed the fish increased in size to 7 to 8 lbs. Catches ran up to 35-40 fish per person and the captain and mate filled a 55 gallon drum with nice sized blackfish. On Sunday, the same action was found with everyone filling at least a five gallon bucket. The mates fished for two hours and filled all buckets in sight with blackfish.

the **Blue Sea II** reports great fishing on Saturday from Seabright to Asbury Park. Blues from 6 to 15 lbs., were taken along with bass and giant weakfish. Catches averaged around 20 fish per person. The fishing was done with Ava 27 diamond jigs. On Sunday, the high winds slowed down the action. The boat will be bottom fishing starting next week.

The **Dorothy B** reports slow fishing because of the weather. On Saturday, he fished the BA buoy and they were taking ling and a few whiting until the dogfish moved in. Catches consisted of 10-15 ling and a few whiting per person.

The **Pilot II** reports that fishing improved on Saturday from the storm. On Sunday, he had a great day blackfishing at Seabright. Fish ranged from 2-6½ lbs., and catches averaged from 15-30 blackfish per person on green crabs. A young man named Mark had a great day with 25 blackfish and a 6½ lb. pool fish.

Capt. Larry on the **Eagle** reports lots of ling were taken on Sunday and looks like there's a load of bottom fish going to move in now. Larry is now fishing ling and whiting everyday and also at 6 PM on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday nights.

FISHERMAN'S CLASSIFIED

To place an ad in *The Long Island Fisherman's* classified ad section, send in copy for the ad exactly as you wish it to read, along with your check or money order for the full amount. Rates for non-subscribers are 25 cents per word, 30 word ($7.50) minimum. Subscribers of *The Fisherman* receive a discount if they include the serial number off their *Subscriber's Club Card* with the order. Classified rates for subscribers are: 20 cents per word, 30 word ($6.00) minimum. Discounts for extended runs: 12 times, 5%; 35 times, 10%; and 50 times, 15%. To run a photograph with the ad, add $13.95.

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32' 1974 Fiberglas Luhrs Marlboro, twin 185 h.p. Diesels, speed to 30 kts. Radar, Loran, bridge enclosure. Sleeps 6. Much, much more. Sell with/without electronics. Evenings. Mon. to Fri. After 6 PM. 212-275-7188.

40' 26 Pass. Charter Boat. USCG Approved. 20 miles ocean, twin Ford diesels. Very economical. Make great family boat. Includes 32 jackets, life raft, compass. New certificate. $15,000. 516-473-0736.

28' PACEMAKER Documented FB Sport Fisherman, 1977 FWC Mercruiser. Full galley. Sleeps 4. Stand up head, recorder, hailer, rockaway chair. Outriggers, two radios, gin pole, large cockpit. Many extras. Boat is economical and in excellent condition. Will demonstrate. $8500. 516-669-1984.

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STATEN ISLAND

Santo's Sport Shop reports that the striper action is holding up from the Verrazano Bridge to Sailors Snug Harbor. These fish are running from shorts to 5½ lbs., and are taking worms. The best areas include Sailors Snug Harbor, Jersey Street, Piers 8 and 17 and Penny Beach. Flounder can be found at the piers and in Great Kills Harbor. It is a steady pick for flatties to ¾ lbs., using worms for bait.

NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

GREENPORT

A. P. White Bait Shop reported the wind and weather kept most anglers away this past weekend. Flounder fishing is still holding up throughout the general area. Pike's Neck Cove is about the best spot. Blackfishing is still good along the Sound and the north side of Plum Island. Some of the rocky areas around Plum Gut would also be a good bet.

The **Wilhelric** reports good blackfishing on the south side of Gull and Plum Island when the weather permitted. Fish up to 9 lbs. were taken. Starting this week, the Wilhelric will be sailing on Friday, Saturday and Sunday only.

SOUTHOLD

Port of Egypt Fishing Station reports that blackfishing is hold up pretty good at Mulford Pt., at the Lighthouse and at Plum Island. These fish have been up to 12 lbs. and are taking worms. Flounder are still in the area, but action has slowed. The fish that are taken average about 1 lb. and are taking worms.

ROCKY POINT

The Rocky Point Fishing Stop reports that bad weather slowed fishing considerably. Some blues can be found in the Sound and blackfish are still in the area, as shown by the baby blacks being taken in the eel pots.

SELDEN

The Angler's Den reported Glenn R. Dennis caught a 54 lb. bass at Crane's Neck. This sounds like the biggest fish taken in this area this year. The weather last week was so severe that the power of the wind and rough seas erroded 10' of beach front at Cedar Beach. Blackfishing with green crabs had been good at Mt. Sinai and Old Field Point. Flounder up to 1½ lbs. were taken pretty consistently off Crane's Neck on either sand worms or bloodworms. If there are any bluefish around, by the time you read this good late season bets would be buoys 9 and 11. Lately a lot of local fishermen have been using Ava Diamond jigs with tubing. The results for the October Derby are as follows: Ray Kline - 8 lb. 5 oz. blackfish; Mary Feinstein - 18 lb. 4 oz. bluefish; Dennis Schmidt - 37 lb. 4 oz. striper, and Bruce Palmieri - 2 lb. 4 oz. flounder.

Tackle Shack reports super flounder fishing at buoy 42 and also at 36 in the Moriches Bay area, being caught on bloods and mussel chum. Blues mixed with some weaks being taken outside Moriches Inlet on umbrellas in 90 ft. of water. Stripers are still being taken from the surf at Smith Pt. on Tackle Shack's secret weapon (?). Blackfish are being taken at Stratford Shoals, weighing 2 to 3 lbs.

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NEW ROCHELLE

NOTICE: *The crew of the*
KLONDIKE VI
and Capt. Pete Pearson are
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PORGIES • SAILING DAILY 8 AM • BLACKS
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HUDSON PARK, NEW ROCHELLE

Flounder plentiful from Mt. Sinai to Port of Egypt, sandworms working best. Big Al announces that he is now carrying marine electronics and CB's which he also rents and repairs. He invites all fishermen and hunters to stop in and say hello over hot coffee anytime.

NORTHPORT

Bowman's Sporting Goods reported Eaton's Neck was the scene of some nice bluefishing last week. Bluefish up to 16 lbs. and some nice stringer catches were made on umbrellas. Most of the bass were in the 5-10 lb. range. Metal lures and the like also produced some fish. This fishing was all earlier last week before the wind and rain. Surf casters at the Lilco plant can expect mixed catches of blues, bass and perch. There are flounder to be had in Northport Harbor and beaches along the Sound. With falling temperatures, flounder will move into the coves and inlets to spend the winter.

HUNTINGTON

Capt. Don of the **Ever Ready** reports his two flounder trips on Sunday produced good catches on worms and clam on local drops. The morning trip's pool went two lbs., and the afternoon's pool ran 2½ lbs. Don plans to sail up to Christmas or until the harbor freezes, whichever comes first.

★GREENPORT★

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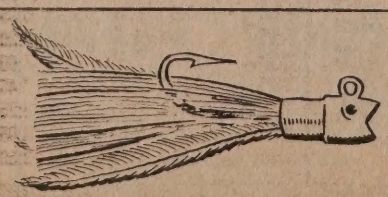

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BAYVILLE

Norm's Bait and Tackle reports that for fishermen who went out in the cold, some flounder were the reward. The fish are being taken in Oyster Bay Harbor and are averaging ¾-1 lb. on worms. Bass are being taken on trolled umbrellas at Lloyd's Neck. These fish are schoolies running to five pounds. Six to ten fish per boat is the average catch.

CITY ISLAND

Jack's Bait and Tackle reported some good flounder fishing in all the days. There are also some tom cod in these spots as well. The best catches were made on sand worms on two hours on either side of high tide. Jack told us of an unconfirmed report of a migrating school of small bass up around Mamaroneck. No other info was available.

KATONAH, N.Y.

Bob's Sport Shop reported some good catches of smallmouth bass made in the local reservoirs last week. John Nolte took a whopping 6 lb. 9 oz. largemouth at Croton Res. Ken Seeto caught a 5 lb. 3 oz. largemouth there also. Tom Tomaska caught a 3 lb. 9 oz. smallmouth from Cross River. Theodore Jodus of Yonkers caught a 3½ lb. smallmouth at Amawalk.

NEW ROCHELLE

Capt. Pete Pearson reported some good blackfishing at the beginning of last week, but unfortunately, as the weather deteriorated, so did the fishing. If the seas settle down and we don't get hit with more high winds, there will be an improvement.

RYE

Point Tackle reported some very cold weather. Flounder fishing is excellent, but blackfishing is spotty. Our connection at the shop said he was on his way out to freeze and hopefully catch a few flounder.

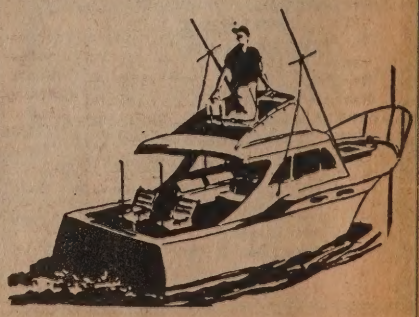
GREENWICH

Capt. John Minnitti of the **Delmar** said fishing wasn't that good last week. High winds made for poor conditions. This will be the last week for sailing with the last trip on November 20.

Sportsmen's Den reported flounder taken just about anywhere in the harbor last week. There were no big catches of blackfish, but there were a few taken at Hen and Chickens.

GROTON CONN.

Capt. Brad Glas of the **Hel-Cat** reported he had a decent mixed catch of cod and blackfish last Sunday. The pool winner was Russel Applegorit from Groton with a 26½ lb. codfish. Brad passed along the word that the boat has stopped sailing until spring.



HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEW-PORT AM	NEW-PORT PM	DATE
THUR.	12:13	12:40	1:09	1:33	1:08	1:27	2:01	2:21	4:18	4:44	3:47	4:11	12:23	12:45	11/17
FRI.	1:16	1:43	2:18	2:39	2:07	2:26	3:09	3:32	5:33	6:03	4:51	5:16	1:23	1:45	11/18
SAT.	2:17	2:43	3:24	3:43	3:06	3:27	4:14	4:38	6:40	7:09	5:53	6:20	2:24	2:45	11/19
SUN.	3:15	3:39	4:25	4:43	4:05	4:27	5:14	5:40	7:38	8:08	6:52	7:20	3:27	3:48	11/20
MON.	4:08	4:31	5:19	5:38	5:00	5:23	6:04	6:33	8:31	8:58	7:46	8:13	4:22	4:43	11/21
TUE.	4:55	5:17	6:07	6:23	5:51	6:11	6:51	7:18	9:18	9:47	8:35	9:03	5:12	5:31	11/22
WED.	5:41	6:01	6:49	7:08	6:36	6:55	7:31	8:00	10:01	10:29	9:20	9:45	5:55	6:16	11/23
THUR.	6:23	6:44	7:29	7:48	7:17	7:37	8:09	8:37	10:41	11:08	10:02	10:28	6:35	6:55	11/24

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	— 0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	— 0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	— 0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	— 0 12
Seaside Park	— 0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	— 0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	— 0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	— 0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	— 0 02
Rehoboth Beach	— 0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	— 0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	— 0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	— 0 38
Democrat Point	— 0 38
Coast Guard Station	— 0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	— 0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	— 0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	— 0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	— 0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	— 0 08
Herod Point	— 0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	— 0 20
Truman Beach	— 0 42
Falkner Island	— 0 13
Sachem Head	— 0 10
Branford Harbor	— 0 07
New Haven Harbor	— 0 08
Milford Harbor	— 0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	— 0 03
Saugatuck River	— 0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	— 0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	— 0 14
Montauk Inlet	— 0 25
Montauk Point	— 1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	— 0 33
Noank, Mystic River	— 0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	— 0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	— 0 10
Execution Light	— 0 06
Manhasset Bay	— 0 01
Hempstead Harbor	— 0 11
City Island	— 0 03
Rye Beach	— 0 28
Port Chester	— 0 09
Mamaroneck	— 0 08
New Rochelle	— 0 24
Davids Island	— 0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	— 0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	— 0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	— 0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	— 0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	— 0 08
Point Judith Harbor	— 0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	— 0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

11/2	6:34	4:53
11/7	6:40	4:47
11/12	6:46	4:42
11/17	6:52	4:38
11/22	6:58	4:34
11/27	7:04	4:31

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
11/11	11/17	11/25	11/4

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM Minor	AM Major	PM Minor	PM Major
THURS.	10:05	4:25	10:35	4:50
FRI.	10:55	5:10	11:20	5:35
SAT.	11:30	5:55	—	6:20
SUN.	12:05	6:40	12:35	7:00
MON.	12:50	7:20	1:15	7:45
TUES.	1:30	8:00	2:00	8:25
WED.	2:10	8:45	2:40	9:05
THURS.	2:55	9:25	3:20	9:50

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